

DOI Defers Action on Rulemakings for Gas Production from Gas Hydrates and Enhanced Oil Recovery through Carbon Dioxide Injection

The Energy Policy Act of 2005, Sections 353 and 354, provides that the Secretary of the Interior shall conduct a rulemaking and grant royalty relief if it is determined that the royalty relief would encourage production of natural gas from gas hydrate resources and enhanced recovery of oil from the injection of carbon dioxide (CO₂).

The Bureau of Land Management and the Minerals Management Service concluded that the royalty relief provisions of the Act would not result in additional natural gas production from gas hydrates, and the BLM concluded that royalty incentives were unnecessary for enhanced onshore oil recovery through carbon dioxide injection.

Accordingly, on August 4, 2006, the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Land and Minerals Management, signed determinations deferring action on the rulemakings described in Sections 353 and 354.

-BLM-